

## Airway Suctioning (April 2013)

<b>Item:</b> Either a manual or mechanical device used to clear upper airway of obstructions.
<b>Classification:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic Life Support procedure</li> <li>• Specified in existing regulations.</li> </ul>
<b>Use and Level:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not authorized for Advanced First Aid</li> <li>• Authorized for EMR</li> <li>• Authorized for all levels of EMT</li> </ul>
<b>Authority:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 100063 (6) of the EMT Regulations, Chapter 2, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations. Section 100063 is the EMT scope of practice and subsection (6) lists nasopharyngeal airway adjuncts as a qualified airway breathing aid.</li> <li>• Section 100106 (a) of the AEMT Regulations. Chapter 3, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations. Section 100106 is the AEMT Scope of Practice and subsection (a) refers to AEMTs being able to provide any activity identified in the scope of practice for an EMT.</li> <li>• Section 100146 (a) of the Paramedic Regulations (Chapter 4, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations). Subsection (a) states that an EMT-Paramedic may perform any activity identified in the scope of practice for an EMT.</li> </ul>
<b>Training:</b> As specified in EMT and Paramedic regulations for level of provider.
<b>Equipment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Properly functioning suctioning device</li> <li>• Selection of varying catheter sizes available</li> <li>• Alternate form of suctioning available</li> </ul>
<b>Medical Direction:</b> Used in accordance with a protocol written and approved by the local EMS agency medical director (HS 1797.220).
<b>Considerations and Recommendations:</b> Suctioning may be considered a high risk procedure under Cal/OSHA ATD 5199.